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11/23/1981 - Panthers Versus Hornets

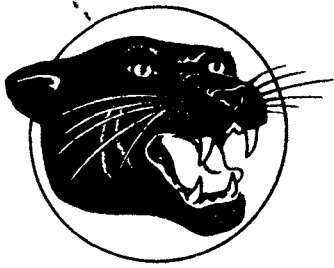
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Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

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Nov. 17, 1981

LS-AS-FB-FB OPP

PANTHERS vs. HORNETS

THE GAME: Eastern Illinois University (5-5) hosts Delaware State University (2-8)
1:00 CST, Saturday, Nov. 21, O'Brien Stadium, Charleston, IL.

THE SERIES: This is the first meeting between the two schools and the season finale for both.

LAST WEEK: The Panthers dropped a 27-14 non-conference game to Indiana State. It was the 14th straight loss to the Sycamores, and the first O'Brien Stadium loss after 11 straight wins. Six EIU turnovers contributed to the loss. QB Jeff Christensen (Gibson City) set a school record with 32 pass completions for 302 yards.

Delaware State won its second game of the season, 13-6, against Central State, OH.

THE COACHES: Eastern's Darrell Mudra, in his fourth season, is 35-14. Overall he is 145-64-2 in 20 years.

DSC's Joe Purzycki is 2-8 in his first season. He is the first white coach in 90 years of Hornet football. For the past three years he was defensive backfield coach at the University of Delaware.

NCAA I-AA STATS: Rob Mehalic (Streator-Woodland), No. 3 in pass receiving with 5.8 catches per game.
Jeff Christensen (Gibson City), No. 4 in total offense with 236.4 yards per game.
Don Manzke (Normal-University), No. 4 in punting at 41.5.
Team passing is No. 4 at 255.9 yards per game.
Team Defense is No. 7 at 233.1.
Pass Defense is No. 4 at 106.0.
Team Net Punting is No. 5 at 37.3 yards.

MCC 'PLAYER OF THE WEEK': Freshman defensive tackle Elvin Carmichael (Harvey-Thornton) has been chosen the MCC Defensive 'Player of the Week'. Carmichael had 13 solo tackles, three assisted tackles, a QB sack and tackle for loss.

MEHALIC RECORDS: Mehalic has set a NCAA I-AA national record for tight ends by catching 12 passes in a game. He accomplished this last week against Indiana State and earlier this year against Illinois State. The previous record was 11 by Rich Smith of Lafayette.

Mehalic is No. 2 in career pass receptions at EIU with 112, and No. 3 in total yardage at 1591. He can't move any higher than those positions.

CHRISTENSEN RECORDS: Christensen needs four yards for a season total offense record, 30 yards for a season passing yardage record, and 87 yards for a career passing yardage record.

FOUR IN A ROW: It's the last chance for the Panthers to secure a winning season which would be four straight. EIU is 35-14 over the last four seasons. The 1927-30 team put together four straight winning years with a combined 24-4-2 record.

GRADUATING SENIORS: Nine seniors will be making their final appearance in an Eastern uniform Saturday. They are cornerback David Cobb (Dixmoor-Thornton), center Scott Gilleland (Barrington), free safety Kevin Gray (Chicago-Hyde Park/Kennedy-King CC), cornerback Wilbert James (Washington, DC-Woodson), linebacker Ira Jefferson (Mokena), cornerback Kevin Jones (Springfield-Lanphier), linebacker Tom Murray (Arlington Heights-St. Viator) and Scott Weber (Crest-Monee/Joliet JC).

DELAWARE STATE: The Hornets, 2-9 last year, have a chance to make a slight improvement with a victory Saturday . . . they have beaten Central State, 13-6, and North Carolina A & T, 21-17 . . . they are a NCAA I-AA team . . . predominantly a ground oriented offensive team, they are averaging 270 yards a game with 180 of it rushing . . . halfback Johnny Rowe has 897 yards but picked up just two against Central State . . . defensive end Anthony Sharpe (6-4, 230) and James Thornton (6-4, 200) have 24 quarterback sacks between them . . . wide receiver Walter Samuels is the only pass catching threat with 27 for 444 yards.

MCC STANDINGS:	MCC	OVERALL	POINTS FOR	POINTS AGAINST
Eastern Illinois	2-1	5-5	226	212
Western Illinois	2-1	5-6	175	223
Northern Iowa	2-1	4-6	230	279
Southwest Missouri	0-3	3-4-1	155	131
Last Week:				
Indiana State		27	Eastern Illinois	14
Western Illinois		20	Howard University	17
Southwest Missouri		47	Lincoln (MO)	7
South Dakota		34	Northern Iowa	17

OPPONENTS THIS WEEK: South Dakota (5-6) season ended
Southwest Missouri (3-4-1) at Nicholls State
Northeast Missouri (6-4) season ended
Central State (4-6) at Alabama State
Illinois State (3-6) hosts Ball State
Western Illinois (5-6) season ended
Youngstown State (7-3) at Northern Iowa (4-6)
Ferris State (4-4) season ended
Indiana State (4-5-1) at Marshall
Delaware State (2-8) at EIU

DARRELL MUDRA SAYS: "Even though we are disappointed with our season, we have some definite incentives for this last game . . . obviously we want to go out on a winning note and get that fourth straight winning season . . . during this period we have been more successful than any team in the state and a win would keep that streak alive . . . secondly, we want to win for our seniors who have made an outstanding contribution to our program . . . we're proud of their achievements as student-athletes and want them to go out on a winning note . . . thirdly, a good effort would be the third straight week we have played well . . . even though we lost to Indiana State, we played pretty well overall . . . (Jeff) Christensen has done a good job the past couple weeks and, of course, Mehalic has been as steady as ever . . .

Elvin Carmichael played his best game against some solid competition and he epitomizes our young group who have made mistakes typical of inexperienced players but who have exhibited potential to develop into solid collegiate players.

"Delaware State obviously wants the win for the same reasons we do . . . go out on a positive note . . . show improvement over last year . . . they have a pretty solid running game and their defensive ends will pose a problem for us . . . I don't think we will take them lightly.

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

	G	T	AT	QB	SACKS	TFL	FF	FR	INT	FG	PAT	BLOCKS PASS	PUNT
Ira Jefferson	10	71	21	15	13(-66)	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tom Murray	10	64	23	8½	9(-38)	3	4	1-0-0	-	-	-	-	-
Bill Mines	10	45	27	1	-	-	-	1-16-0	-	-	-	-	-
Elvin Carmichael	10	29	17	2½	3(-7)	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greg Duncan	10	22	16	1½	4(-9)	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Keith Wojnowski	10	37	31	1½	9(-23)	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Woodrow Shaw	9	24	22	5	6(-19)	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Randy Harms	8	25	13	3	2(-4)	1	1	1-4-0	-	-	-	-	-
Wilbert James	9	29	5	-	-	-	1	4-5-0	-	-	-	-	-
Mike Angland	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kevin Jones	10	25	10	-	1(-4)	-	-	2-0-0	-	-	-	-	-
Dick Essman	4	4	1	1	2(-5)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kevin Gray	9	38	19	-	1(-2)	1	-	3-39-0	2	-	-	-	-
Ortega Jackson	7	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Robert Williams	10	38	23	1	1(-3)	-	1	3-0-0	-	-	-	-	-
Bob DeMoulin	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Al Jennings	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Booker Brown	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tyrone Covington	5	14	5	-	1(-1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mark Zwilling	9	6	4	-	1(-5)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charlie Person	10	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Len Seward	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
David Ferguson	9	24	14	1½	2(-8)	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Randy McCue	5	9	3	1	-	-	-	1-0-0	-	-	-	-	-
Jim Lyles	3	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
David Cobb	10	4	-	-	2(-8)	-	-	1-32-0	-	-	-	-	-
Frank Walsh	9	3	2	½	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dan Ahmer	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	10	1525	267	43	57(-202)	9	14	17-96-0	2	-	-	-	-

KEYS: T(Tackles), AT(Assisted Tackles), TFL(Tackles for Loss), FF(Forced Fumbles), FR(Fumble Recoveries),
INT(Interceptions)

GAME SCORES (5-5)

EIU	Opponents
19	17 at South Dakota (7000)
*24	13 Southwest Missouri State (8400)
14	21 at Northeast Missouri State (5600)
58	0 Central State (6500)
3	25 at Illinois State (7808)
*20	8 Western Illinois (5000)
16	48 at Youngstown State (3500)
*17	38 at Northern Iowa (7100)
42	14 Ferris State (10,200)
14	27 Indiana State (6600)
*2-1,	Mid-Continent Conference